this Committee's interpretation *would limit the authority* given under Section 201 of the bill to continue tariff adjustments. Mr. Solter said that the "Committee's interpretation" indicated the President would be limited to adjustments for housekeeping purposes, but that *the Committee* should broaden its interpretation to permit the President to negotiate tariff concessions on other products such as lauan plywood as to which no tariff reduction was effected in the Kennedy Round. Mr. Solter said an adjustment of the duty rate on lauan plywood was justified in view of the reductions agreed to in the Kennedy Round as to some other types of hardwood-plywood.

As you know, the section-by-section analysis published by the Committee shortly after your introduction of the Administration was not a Committee interpretation, but instead was a suggestion by the White House indicating that the requested extension of bargaining authority would be used *only* for housekeeping purposes and not as authority for engaging in either a whole new round of tariff adjustments or in tariff adjustments on specific commodities except in cases in which that was required by reason of a housekeeping problem.

My client recognizes that under present political conditions it would unquestionably be unwise for the President to ask for any authority for further tariff adjustments other than those required under the provisions of GATT for housekeeping purposes. My Association enthusiastically supports that position of the President for we do not believe it would be expedient at the present time to ask for or for the Committee to propose any authority other than that requested by the President. We believe that under the proposed broadened tests for providing adjustment assistance any domestic plywood manufacturer who can show injury from imports could be amply taken care of.

We opopse H.R. 16936 and H.R. 17674, which would put a quota limitation on the importation of hardwood-plywood. This opposition is on the grounds that there has been no demonstration of need for any such quota legislation and that should need for relief be demonstrated by one or more companies in future adjustment assistance proceedings, the assistance tests of the new bill would permit adequate relief.

In this connection I call your attention to Exhibit A, attached to the statement filed with the Committee a few days ago by the Hardwood-Plywood Manufacturers Association. It shows that for a period of eleven years, from 1957 through 1967, the ratio of imports to U.S. consumption has remained constant in the range of approximately 53%, the share of imports being 52% for 1957; 49% for 1965; 54% for 1966 and 55% for 1967. Thus, over the past eleven years, there has been no substantial increase in the share of imports in total consumption. Under these circumstances there is no justification for consideration by the Committee of H.R. 16936 or H.R. 17674, which would place import quotas on hardwood-plywood.

Very truly yours,

JAMES R. SHARP,
Counsel for Imported Hardwood Products Association, Inc.

Mr. HERLONG. Mr. Beckmann.

Is Mr. Beckmann here?

Mr. Beckmann, we have received a note for a rollcall vote over on the House floor, but you are allocated 5 minutes here.

We can get through with you in plenty of time if you stay within your limit.

STATEMENT OF R. J. BECKMANN, ON BEHALF OF DOMESTIC WOOD LOUVERED PRODUCTS INDUSTRY; ACCOMPANIED BY DAVID A. GOLDEN, COUNSEL

Mr. BECKMANN. I think we can handle it in that amount of time.

Mr. HERLONG. Thank you, sir.

Do you want your entire statement to appear in the record?

Mr. BECKMANN. Yes.

Mr. HERLONG. Without objection, it will be done.

Will you identify yourself for the record and proceed?